

This is the third of a series of annual editorials in which the Torrance Herald has set forth what is needed in the community to enable Torrance to take its place as the fourth largest city in Los Angeles County...

These accomplishments were set forth in the second editorial, "Vision: Fulfilled?" on Jan. 3, 1946, and further needs were noted.

The year 1946 truly has been one of progress for Torrance, and 1947 should see the accomplishments of 1946 bear fruits of prosperity, better living, finer schools, more recreation, more homes, water where needed, more factories, better streets—in fact, definite proof that Torrance is growing into "long pants."

No one in Torrance will deny that the fact that the people of Torrance have at last been able to divorce the Torrance schools from the Los Angeles school system is the greatest thing that has happened to this community for many years.

Why do we say "the greatest"? Many other things of the year 1946 can be presented in competition with this claim.

Can they overcome these facts:

(1) Our schools will have the full benefit of the tax revenues from the \$30,000,000 assessed valuation of Torrance, the money to pay for the finest school buildings, to hire the best instructors, to provide the vocational and academic courses which will better fit our children for the future...

Who are more important to the community than our children?

(2) Torrance control of the schools of Torrance will bring more than \$1,000,000-a-year original dollar turnover to the City of Torrance, a sum which will increase in years to come.

In terms of dollars and cents, the economic benefit to Torrance of operation by the people of Torrance of the schools will be tremendous; it will mean much to the man in business and to the taxpayer in Torrance.

(3) Control by Torrance of the Torrance schools will mean that the greatly needed coordinated city-schools recreation program can be brought about, with buildings, the auditorium, gymnasiums and facilities to be provided, put into use for the cultural advantage of the whole community.

It would take a book to dwell in full on the advantages to Torrance of local operation of the schools being accomplished by the adoption Aug. 20, 1946, of the City Charter.

If a second accomplishment of the year 1946 can come near that of the school issue, it is that of the providing of water for two vast areas of the community.

Two new districts were formed in 1946 to provide for water distribution from the Metropolitan Water District, membership in which Torrance has held for years to the envy of surrounding towns.

Already in the two newly-formed water districts, plans have been made for several hundred houses, with many already under construction.

And hand-in-hand with water comes the need for sewer districts, and the year 1946 has seen the basic plans made for three such districts to serve South Torrance, North Torrance and Southwest Torrance.

Ambitious street and highway improvement programs have been completed, with others under way, but the accomplishments of the year are but a "drop in the bucket" when the need of the vast area of Torrance is taken into consideration.

With the adoption of the City Charter to provide for control by the people of Torrance of their own schools, the way has been opened up for changes in the city government to do away with costly duplication of effort, to lower costs and achieve more efficiency.

A City Manager form of government is needed for this accomplishment, and it can be brought about by an amendment to the City Charter. This idea already has the endorsement of the City Council, at the suggestion of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce which has spearheaded the City Manager movement.

While the City Manager would be able to cut corners, reduce costs and enable the city to live within its taxable limits, it also, no doubt, would result in elimination of the purchasing and engineering details which are plaguing the formation of the two new water districts, the operation of the municipal bus lines and the effort to secure once and for all the whole of the Army-developed airport as a Torrance Municipal airport.

By no means the least desirable achievement of 1946 has been the agreement between the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce to work in harmony for the betterment of the community and government, this for the benefit of the people of Torrance as a whole.

Yes, 1946 has been a good year for Torrance. Two basic industries purchased land here, the American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation for a \$2,500,000 plant, and the Bates Expanded Metal Products Corporation, for a plant which will run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars in value.

But, Torrance still needs attention to such matters as:

- 1. Parking in the commercial district, off street.
2. Renovation of the road signs leading to Torrance and installation, as a community enterprise, of cooperative service club, veterans organization, Chamber of Commerce markets.
3. All United States mail for Torrance handled through the Torrance post office, instead of having it split up in Gardena, Redondo Beach and Lomita offices.
4. A central telephone system for Torrance, under a Torrance exchange, eliminating the need for Menlo, Redondo, and Lomita numbers in Torrance homes and business establishments.
5. An ambitious highway and street program partly financed with state road funds since many Torrance thoroughfares are major or secondary state highways, with feeders having close relationship with the state system.
6. Transportation to all parts of Torrance by the Torrance buses, and service to as great an outlying area as possible, since this will mean business to Torrance merchants while providing a much-needed service to the people in the outlying areas.

The closing line of last year's editorial was "Our prediction: 1946 will be a year of action."

Truly it was, as outlined above. This year we say that Torrance will begin to profit by the accomplishments of 1946, with the prediction: "1947 will be a year of results."

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5 CENTS

ELECTION SLATED JAN. 24 TO DECIDE ON SELECTION OF HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Everything is in order for the election in Torrance on Jan. 24 to decide whether Torrance school district will become a part of Redondo Union high school and El Camino college districts until the Torrance Unified School district can be formed, or whether it will remain for another year under the control of the Los Angeles high school district, without local junior college facilities.

Following a meeting with Assemblyman Vincent Thomas on Monday, Dr. H. A. Wood, chairman of the Torrance Charter Committee, said that the office of the County Superintendent of Schools had prepared all material and notices for the election on Jan. 24, at which time the question of the high school and junior college districts will be decided.

While Torrance, having adopted a City Charter on Aug. 20, 1946, provides for assumption of control of Torrance schools from Los Angeles, will take control of the elementary schools as of July 1, 1947 under present plans, under the law it must await the organization of the Unified School district before the community can take over the high school.

In the interim, the people of Torrance must decide whether they want to affiliate with Redondo Union high school district and El Camino Junior college district, or remain with Los Angeles high school district, with no local college facilities locally available.

At present, many Torrance young people already are attending classes of El Camino college at Redondo Union high school.

Assemblyman Thomas told the group that the joint Assembly-Senate Resolution to ratify the City Charter of Torrance had been duly prepared by his office with the advice of the Legislative Counsel, and that it will be introduced as one of the first orders of business following organization of the 1947 California Legislature.

Notices of the election will be published the minute word of the ratification of the charter is received.

Polling places will be in schools in Torrance, and at the Perry district school, it was said.

The only question to be decided is whether Redondo Union high school district board of trustees or Los Angeles shall have the control of Torrance high school until the Torrance Unified School district is formed to take over all grades from kindergarten through high school.

Classes will be conducted in the Torrance high school building as in the past, and those Torrance students from Perry, Hollywood-Riviera and West Torrance sections who already attend Redondo Union high school will continue to attend there.

However, unless Torrance voters decide to go into El Camino Junior college district with Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo and other cities at the Jan. 24 election, they will have to stay in the Los Angeles Junior college district and travel to Los Angeles to classes, even after the Torrance Unified School district is formed.

Abortion Case Trial Set For February 19

Mrs. Lillian Enloe, 60, her husband Raymond, Dr. Roy L. Buffum, prominent Long Beach doctor, Mae Ramsey and Winifred Howard, all alleged members of an abortion ring, appeared before Superior Court Judge William R. McKay Dec. 23 to hear a decision on their motion to quash the indictment against them. Judge McKay refused the appeal and then set for trial Feb. 19 in Superior court.

The Enloes were arrested on Oct. 29 at 8120 E. Second st., Long Beach, when raiding officers interrupted them as they were allegedly about to perform an abortion on a young girl. The patient's name was withheld by the authorities.

Arrested on the same day were Mae "Ma" Ramsey, 58, and Miss Winifred Howard, at 1011 W. 223rd st., near Torrance.

The five suspects are alleged to be members of an abortion ring that has been operating throughout Southern California.

King Promises Action To Get Complete Airport

Rep. Cecil E. King will return to Washington for the 80th session of Congress armed with documents and necessary factual data to bring to a successful conclusion the effort of the City of Torrance to secure the 400 acres of the Army-developed airport here as a Torrance Municipal airport.

The runway itself, comprising 39 acres, has been awarded to the city on a perpetual lease basis, and it has been named "Zampertini Field."

The balance of some 400 acres has been sought for months, and is in a "muddle" with the Public Roads Division and Engineers claiming that it belongs to War Assets Administration as surplus property and advising the city to deal with WAA, and the WAA denying that it has jurisdiction over it.

Meanwhile, the Third Civil Air Patrol group is claiming to have a five-year lease for the 400 acres from the engineers.

After a conference with Mayor Hugh Sherkey, Chairman Reed H. Parkin and Grover C. Whyte, of the Aviation Commission, Representative King asked for a complete brief on the efforts of the City of Torrance, and said that he will bring the entire issue to a head upon his return from Washington.

Youth Dies Of 'Hot Rod' Car Crash Injuries

Nineteen-year-old Roy G. Morgan, 1603 W. 219th st., died late Saturday night when his "hot rod" overturned on Torrance Blvd. near Henrietta ave. and hurled him from the vehicle onto the pavement. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at Torrance Memorial hospital.

His passenger, Otis A. Parr, 21, 1725 Greenwood ave., was seriously injured in the mishap and confined in the Torrance hospital. Investigation revealed that the hot-rod's steering gear had collapsed as the car rounded a curve leaving Redondo Beach.

A veteran of World War II young Morgan was discharged last June. He is survived by his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Morgan, and 10-year old brother Jackie, of the Torrance address, another brother, Leonard H. Morgan, living in Seattle, Wash., and grandparents Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Howell, Montebello.

Services will be conducted in the Stone and Myers chapel Friday at 2 p. m. by the Rev. C. M. Northrup. Burial will follow in Inglewood Park cemetery.

Hit-And-Run Drunk Driver Fined \$300

Convicted in Torrance City court last week of hit and run driving, Arthur Joseph Shepherd, 23, 22733 S. Main st., entered a guilty plea to an additional charge of driving an automobile while under the influence of alcohol.

Shepherd, fined \$150 on each count, received a \$150 suspension of the total amount on the provision he make restitution of damage he caused to an automobile bill owned by Cecil O. Lee, 2115 W. 238th st., court records revealed.

Shepherd was arrested at Torrance Memorial hospital by local police when he applied there for treatment of injuries received in the hit and run crash, officers said.

New Wage Demand of Retail Clerks Threatens To Close Food Stores

Torrance housewives took an extra check of their leaders yesterday as they heard that some of the larger food stores of Torrance and Lomita, and all Los Angeles County, would not open Thursday due to a meeting of retail clerks called in Los Angeles to discuss demands for wage increases.

While it was impossible to determine the extent of the effect of the new Retail Clerks' union demands upon local employers, due to the meeting of employers called in Long Beach Monday night, the picture indicated that most of the super markets would be open.

Independents also probably will be open for business on Thursday. There was some question as to the chain stores, and management itself said that the question could not be answered until Thursday morning when employees either show up, or fall so to do, to open the stores.

The clerks are asking for a \$60 wage for 40 hours, a purported raise of \$10 to \$20 a week. Management is offering, it is said, \$55 a week for 40 hours.

Meanwhile, such meat markets as were open this week were operating on the provisions that butchers working Mondays be paid time and one-half for such work, it was said.

The retail clerks' meeting was due to last several days, according to reports, with those employees of firms signing new contract or signing a temporary agreement being allowed to work.

Pickets were to be placed around stores attempting to open without owners of such stores signing either the temporary or regular contracts offered by the union, it was said.

Twenty-Thirty Club Float In New Year's Day Rose Parade Assured

Climaxing efforts of more than 30 members of the 20-30 club and their friends, Torrance for the first time was to have a float in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade New Year's day.

Members of the club worked long hours preparing the float at the assembly center in Pasadena, and many were on 24-hour shifts.

The float, depicting the acceptance of California into the Union, is destined to be a prize winner, according to Dick Miller.

Financially, the 20-30 club members were able to put their drive over the top with \$500 from the City of Torrance. The fund reached \$3,023.00, and deducting \$401.60 for expenses necessary in raising this amount, the net was \$2,621.40, the approximate cost of the Torrance entry.

Miss Frances Barrington, "Miss Torrance of 1946," will grace the float as queen, flanked by her aides, Doris Lee Quaggin, Marge Dunham, Beverly Kelly and Cubie Bohannon.

Additional donations to the fund were announced by the group as follows: Albert Isen, \$10; AOUW No. 33, \$20; Beacon Drug Co., \$5; Benson's, \$10;

Lingenfelter Named March Of Dimes Head

Homer W. Bale, who will build 190 houses at 174th st. and Crenshaw Blvd., has asked the City Council for permission to make arrangements for private water service on his tract.

A letter to the Council which will be considered Jan. 7 at a special meeting, declares that Torrance Municipal Water district No. 2 will not be able to take care of the needs of the subdivision in time to permit development as scheduled and asks the permission of the city to make "other arrangements." These arrangements, it is understood, have been offered by the Moneta Water Company, which serves an area in North Torrance bonded as an acquisition and improvement district and adjoining territory both in Torrance and the Los Angeles shoestring strip area.

The Council's study, it was said, will take into consideration the policy announced at a recent meeting providing that arrangements made with companies other than the municipal water district be subject to cancellation at the time that the water district can meet the supply demands. This would mean, it is said, that the district can buy out the assets of any private company installing service to a subdivision or firm, and upon completion of the transaction continue service with water provided by the district.

North Torrance water district plans contemplate the use of Metropolitan Water district supply available to the district at the main at Crenshaw Blvd. and 190th st. The council will receive bids for the \$174,000 bonds for the new district on Jan. 7.

The Rev. Mr. Lingenfelter stated in accepting the chairmanship: "This is one of the most important fund-raising campaigns conducted throughout the year, and is important to every person young or old, rich or poor. This dread disease is no respecter of persons."

"While Torrance, as a community, has been very fortunate, no one knows when we may be the center of an epidemic. Between Jan. 1, 1946 and Oct. 26, 1946, Torrance district cases were as follows: Torrance, 3 cases; Gardena, 9 cases; Hermosa Beach, 1 case; Manhattan Beach, 2 cases; Palos Verdes Es tates, 1 case; Redondo Beach, 2 cases and unincorporated area, 13 cases making a total of 31 cases.

CITY LOSES SECOND ROUND IN FIGHT TO STOP SALE OF MUNICIPAL BUS LINES

Dismissal of all legal action on the attempts of the City of Torrance to sell the Torrance Municipal bus lines probably will be ordered at the special meeting of the City Council Jan. 7, as a result of the city's second defeat in the courts in the lawsuit brought by W. J. B. Hughes to stop the sale.

Bus Line Shows Big Return To City Treasury

Torrance Municipal bus lines returned revenue to the City of Torrance of \$40,276.26 in the three months' period ending Nov. 30, according to report in the City Hall.

The bus lines have been running regularly \$15,000 to \$17,000 a month gross to the city, with mileage running about 40,000 a month.

Total mileage for the three months' period was 122,104, covering both the Los Angeles and local runs.

Revenue from ticket agents reported for three months is as follows: Beacon Drug Co., \$7,823.20; Tenth and Hill street station, Los Angeles, \$14,096.45.

Driver revenue from fare boxes was reported at \$16,762.91 with sale of commutation books, additional tickets and miscellaneous revenue making up the balance.

The bus lines operating efficiency has been considerably reduced in recent months, it was said, due to breakdowns of antiquated equipment. At one time, three buses were down out of service for repairs, it was revealed.

The city has been attempting to locate new or used buses to extend present lines and replace worn-out equipment, but has been unable to find suitable vehicles.

Surplus equipment in Army and Navy bases is available, but investigation, it is said, has proved that the buses offered are not usable in regular passenger service.

It had been hoped, officials pointed out, that the route to serve North Torrance, extending from Long Beach to Inglewood, could have been established by this time, but this has been delayed due to lack of the necessary equipment.

El Camino College Enrollment For First Semester 500; New Schedule

On the three campuses of newly instituted El Camino college, Redondo Beach, Inglewood and El Segundo, there are already 500 students enrolled.

Executives of the college include Forrest Murdock of Inglewood, acting director; W. K. Cobb, director of the Redondo campus; Harry E. Moore, El Segundo director; L. W. Waller, dean at Redondo.

The spring semester program for the college has been announced and enrollment in classes has commenced. The calendar is as follows:

- Jan. 27—Opening of the spring semester.
Jan. 28—Instruction begins.
Feb. 6—Last day for change of program.
Feb. 10—Last day for registration.
March 7—Last day to drop course without grade check.
March 31-April 4—Spring vacation.
June 13—Close of school year.
The courses include English, History, Journalism, Mathematics, Science, Spanish, Psychology, Fine Arts, Commerce and other requested classes which have the required enrollment may be arranged.

Many Torrance students already are enrolled at El Camino Junior college classes being held at Redondo high school, and it is expected that it will prove increasingly popular in the coming semester.

There is some talk of installing the campus of the college in Alondra park, North Torrance, and Torrance voters probably will vote on Jan. 24 to join the

The District Court of Appeals affirmed the judgment of the Superior court which held that the city had no right to sell the bus lines without proceeding according to the municipal code which provides for an expression of the people on the matter before sale and then offering the lines to the highest bidder.

Charles F. Koors, transportation company head in Los Angeles, who served as traffic coordinator in Torrance for several months in 1945, had put up some \$60,000 for the bus lines and the previous City Council had ordered the sale to Koors.

Hughes and his group filed a lawsuit to compel the city to proceed according to the code if the sale is to be consummated. They contended that the bus lines are a public utility and as such cannot be sold except upon vote of the people and then to the highest bidder.

The City Council, through City Attorney John McCall, alleged that the bus lines were not a public utility but amounted merely to rolling stock, equipment and supplies. McCall said that the city has no franchise to sell, since it is not necessary for the municipality to secure a franchise.

The Superior court overruled this contention, and the Council ordered the decision appealed. Burke, Hickson, Burke and Marshall were retained as joint counsel in the action at the request of McCall.

Later, the new City Council heard a motion to dismiss the proceedings altogether, but when it was explained that since the issue involves a point of law and since all briefs had been submitted to the Appellate court, the motion by Counsellman G. V. Powell was withdrawn.

With the decision of the Appellate court, it is expected that the dismissal will be ordered.

City Attorney McCall admitted, however, that the Council probably would be asked to approve the filing of a motion for a rehearing on the matter.

The bus lines are grossing from \$12,000 to \$13,500 a month for the City of Torrance, and making an estimated net income of approximately \$12,000 a year.

At that time, it is contemplated, the election will be held by which Torrance will decide on affiliation of the new Torrance school district with a high school district. It must pick either Redondo or Los Angeles, for the interim period pending formation of the Torrance Unified School district. Sentiment favors Redondo, since it places Torrance in the new El Camino college district.

When the unified district in Torrance is formed later next year, Torrance will remain in the El Camino district.

LEONARD BEAL IS APPOINTED TO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Leonard J. Beal has been appointed as a patrolman of the Torrance Police department. Beal takes the vacancy created by the resignation of C. C. Tolson.

Weather Record table with columns for Date, Maximum, Minimum, and Precipitation.